E-Teacher – Online Teacher Training Courses

Once again this year, we are pleased to inform you that we have the opportunity to nominate English teacher trainers and English teachers for scholarships for online teacher training courses offered by the Office of English Language Programs of the Department of State, under the E-teacher Scholarship Program: English Teacher Professional Development Distance Learning Program. **The courses last 10 weeks, and they begin in different times of the year (US fall of 2013, winter, spring and summer of 2014).**

If you are interested in participating in one online course or in nominating a teacher from your institution for it, please fill out the attached form and send it to us by e-mail to RamirezJA1@state.gov by Sunday July, 21st.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Important note: Candidates interested in this scholarship should make sure the meet the following requirements:

- Be a Paraguayan citizen
- Not hold dual citizenship in the USA
- Possess required English language abilities:
    - High intermediate to advanced English language skills, particularly in reading and writing; be able to complete academic work at a U.S. university level (approximately equivalent to a 525 TOEFL / 70 TOEFL iBT)
    - General understanding of English technical terms relating to digital technology and the Internet
- Meet internet access and technology skills requirements:
    - Regular access (4-5 times/week) to a reliable, up-to-date computer with high-speed internet connectivity. In some cases, posts may need to help arrange for regular computer access at an Information Resource Center, American Space, or other location
    - Basic technology skills related to email, internet searches and downloads/uploads, logins/passwords, and e-file use (e.g., .pdf, MS Word, Excel). Practical Applications in Listening and Speaking Skills (PALSS, see paragraph 8 for course descriptions) participants require access to real-time tools such as Skype.
    - Ability to type in English well enough to perform online tasks and to submit written assignments in a timely manner.

The following course offerings will be available: Click on the course name below to read its short description and the specific requirements.

- Practical Applications in Listening and Speaking Skills (PALSS)
- Introduction to Pedagogy and Practices for Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL Methods)

Courses for Educators of Specific Audiences:

- Building Teaching Skills through the Interactive Web (Web Skills)
- English for Specific Purposes, Aligning Context with Practices and Materials (ESP)
- Special Education and Differentiated Instruction in an EFL Context (SpEd TEFL)
- Teaching English to Pre-Teens and Teens (TEPT)
- Teaching English to Young Learners (TEYL)

Advanced Courses

- Critical Thinking in Language Learning and Teaching (CT)
- Assessment: Summative and Formative Practices in Language Learning and Teaching (Assessment)

Feedback / signing up for follow up activities / joining State Alumni:

- Teachers who participate in this program are required to report and provide feedback to the Embassy about the course and at the end of the course, an evaluation is required to inform about what they have learn and how they plan to apply the knowledge.
- Since one of the objectives of this program is to share the knowledge, participants are required to sign up for follow up activities such as conducting workshops or presentations for other English teachers at their institutions, PARATESOL, APIP, at the American Corner in San Lorenzo (CCPA). At least one workshop or presentation should be conducted by the participant and the Embassy needs to be informed on date, time and audience.
- By participating in the E-teacher Scholarship Program, participants are State Alumni and therefore they are invited to join the Sate Alumni Web Site. Once we have the final winners we will inform about the easy steps to register in the State Alumni.

COURSE MATERIALS

Course materials will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- downloadable or posted syllabi, assignments, and course readings;
- asynchronous and some synchronous contact between instructor and participants, between other experts and participants, and among participants;
- lectures via real-time, text, or audio-enhanced text;
- use of a bulletin board to post notes, assignments, feedback, etc.;
- information on additional web-based resources.
- ECA/A/L Resources for English Teachers

All materials will emphasize a learner-centered approach and will be in English. When possible, courses will integrate appropriate Department of State materials such as English Teaching Forum magazine articles and "Shaping the Way we teach English"